

Flowering Bulbs and Live Plant Fund Raiser

Brynnley Johnson, on behalf of the Freshman class and the Cornerstone Scholarship fund, would like to let you know about a fun way to make a tax deductible donation to either cause. At the end of last year, Brynnley planted a bulb garden in the hopes of using the garden to help benefit the school. We have already started planting bulbs around campus just to add a little color, but here's how the deductible part comes in. During Spring, we are offering bulbs and live plants as a thank you gift whenever you make a donation to the scholarship fund or contribute to the Class of 2025's fund which is used for school functions they sponsor. On top of the free gift, the scholarship fund is still hoping to meet our matching goal of \$1,000 for this year so would you please consider making a small donation in the next few weeks?

As a thank you for supporting our school and our students donors may choose from the following options. (Please read to the bottom for a fun suggestion for your plants and bulbs.)

Flowering Bulbs

Bluebells (limited supply)

Crocsmia

Crocus

Daffodil

Daylily (limited supply)

Glory of the Snow (limited supply)

Hyacinth

Iris

Snowdrops (limited supply)

Tulips

Live Plants

Blackberry (2 cuttings currently)

Chives

Green Bean

Red Raspberry

Strawberry

Tomato

If you are interested, you can go to the donation page

(<http://www.dayspringchristianacademy.org/donate.html>) and select the Cornerstone Scholarship donation link or the general link and note that you would like your donation to go to the Freshman class. Then email me

at mjohnson@handp.com<mailto:mjohnson@handp.com> to select your plants. I can bring them into Dayspring or you can come by to pick out your plants in Dublin. You can also consider gifting your plants to a teacher. I have a feeling we have more than one teacher who has a green thumb.

Now, here is my fun idea:

A few years ago, our home fellowship group studied Leviticus and I thought this verse was such an amazing provision. Leviticus 19:9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. The intention of this portion of the law was to provide for the poor, widows, and foreigners. Israel was not allowed to harvest the full extent of their fields and if grain was dropped while harvesting, they were instructed to leave it on the ground. Those in need, like Ruth, would follow the harvest and God provided for their needs by allowing grain to drop. Following that, I began to plant a garden under the fence in front of my house. The garden started with a few blueberry bushes and a blackberry plant, but today it also has strawberries, raspberries, chives, tomatoes, and bulbs that flower in spring before the fruit begins to grow. I call it my Leviticus garden. Brynnley painted "LEV 19:9" on the fence as invitation for those walking by to pick and enjoy. My family still harvests from the garden, but I hope it will someday become a destination for others. One day a small girl and her father walked by and were admiring my flowers and because they were in my Leviticus garden, I told her she could choose one and take it home where she could take care of it and it would multiply.

A few years after starting the garden, I was going through a church's food pantry and the pastor told me that they had two members with a fenced portion of their garden and everything they harvest from the fenced portion is donated to the food pantry. My idea, is if a dozen or so families in the region began to plant gardens adjacent to sidewalks or on the edges of their property, we could create a map of their locations and share them with the churches who have active ministries for the poor or operate food pantries. This could create opportunities for supplemental food and for ministry. After all, who can stand on the other side of my fence picking fruit and vegetables while I'm pulling weeds without at least being willing to chat with me. If you like this idea, let me know and I'd be happy to help you get started.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson
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